

## Charles W. Chesnutt

Cleveland, Ohio

MR. CHESNUTT is the best-known novelist of his race. Dr. DuBois in a recent article said, "Chesnutt wrote powerfully but with great reserve and suggestiveness, touching a new realm in the borderland between the races, and making the world listen with one short story."



C. W. Chesnutt

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio June 20, 1858. His parents were North Carolinians of free ancestry for several generations, and with but a small admixture of Negro blood. He attended school until he was fifteen, when he became a teacher and was principal of the public school at eighteen, and later was principal of the State Colored Normal School at Fayetteville, N. C.

During his years as a teacher, he read widely and studied under private tutors, acquiring among other things a knowledge of French and German languages and of phonography. Resigning his position in the State Normal School, he went to New York, and thence to Cleveland. He was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1887.

Mr. Chesnutt's literary work began shortly after his return to Cleveland, when he contributed new stories and sketches to newspapers and magazines. A series of Southern stories in 1887, in the *Atlantic Monthly*, were afterward collected in his book, "The Conjure Woman." His best-known short story, "The Wife of His Youth," appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* in 1888 and was republished in a volume "The Wife of His Youth, and Other Stories of the Color Line." He has written, "The House Behind the Cedars," 1900, a romantic love story with a color line motive; "The Marrow of Tradition," 1901, and "The Colonel's Dream," — volumes dealing with racial conditions in the South, and "A Life of Frederick Douglass."

Mr. Chesnutt says to young colored men: "Do first the duty nearest you. Cultivate high ideals, seeking to develop the best that is in you. And remember always that, in the long run, races, and individuals as well, will be judged by much the same standards, however difficult these may be, and must rise or fall, according to the degree in which they meet them."

## Sumner A. Furniss, M.D.

Indianapolis, Ind.

DR. FURNISS is a prominent physician and surgeon. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Negro Business League. He was born in Jackson, Miss., January 30, 1874, but has lived in Indianapolis since his early childhood.



Dr. S. A. Furniss

His father, a native of New England, is superintendent of the special delivery department of the Indianapolis post-office. A brother, Henry W., was United States consul at Bahia, Brazil, appointed by President McKinley. He later was promoted to represent the United States as minister to Hayti.

Sumner received his academic education in the Indianapolis schools and at Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Mo. He began the study of medicine in 1891, and graduated from the Medical College of Indiana in 1894, ranking second in a class of fifty-two members.

He was appointed interne at the City Hospital, Indianapolis, after his graduation, securing the position by competitive examination in a class of fourteen candidates. Since 1895 he has been engaged in general practice at his present location. He has applied himself to his chosen profession, and has won a high standing in professional circles. He is a man of broad culture and a thorough student, and is especially interested in all movements for the uplift of his race.

Dr. Furniss is a member of the County and State Medical Associations and the American Medical Association. He was one of the organizers and was the first president of the Young Men's Christian Association. He is a leader in the work of the colored hospital — Lincoln Hospital — of Indianapolis, and for six years has been on the executive committee of the National Negro Business League. He is prominent in secret societies and is a Republican party worker and leader. He possesses the confidence and esteem of the community in a rare degree, but has never manifested any aspirations for political honors, his profession seeming to him so large a field that he could never hope to satisfy all its exhaustive demands. He is an enthusiastic worker for the best advancement of his people.